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consisting of -C(O)- and -C(O)N(R1)-;

# WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1	1. A compound of the formula		
2	$B^1-L^1-A^1-L^2-B^2$		
3	I		
4	wherein:		
5	A1 is a member selected from the group consisting of alkylene, alkenylene		
6	alkynylene, cycloalkylene, cycloalkenylene, arylene, heteroarylene, heterocycloalkylene,		
7	and heterocycloalkenylene, or, alternatively, A <sup>1</sup> represents a single or double bond linking		
8	$L^1$ and $L^2$ ;		
9	L1 and L2 are each independently a member selected from the group		
10	consisting of O-, -S-, -N( $\mathbb{R}^1$ )-, -C(O)-, -C(O)N( $\mathbb{R}^1$ )-, -O-alkylene-, -S-alkylene-, -N( $\mathbb{R}^1$ )-		
11	$alkylene, -C(O)-alkylene, -C(O)N(R^1)-alkylene, -C(O)-O-alkylene, \\ alkylene, alkylene, \\ alkylene, -C(O)-O-alkylene, \\ alkylene, $		
12	alkynylene, cycloalkylene, cycloalkenylene, arylene, heteroarylene, heterocycloalkylene,		
13	and heterocycloalkenylene;		
14	B <sup>1</sup> and B <sup>2</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
15	consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, and		
16	heterocycloalkenyl;		
17	alternatively, $L^1$ can be additionally linked to $B^1$ via a group $X^1$ to form a		
18	5-9 member ring; and $L^2$ can be additionally linked to $B^2$ via a group $X^2$ to form a 5-9		
19	member ring;		
20	X1 and X2 are each independently a member selected from the group		
21	consisting of -O-, -S-, -N( $\mathbb{R}^2$ )-, -C(O)-, -C(O)N( $\mathbb{R}^2$ )-, -O-alkylene, -S-alkylene, -N( $\mathbb{R}^2$ )-		
22	alkylene, - $C(O)$ -alkylene, - $C(O)N(R^2)$ -alkylene, and - $C(O)$ -O-alkylene; and		
23	R1 and R2 are each independently a member selected from the group		
24	consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl,		
25	heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), (heteroaryl)alkyl, and		
26	(heteroaryl)heteroalkyl.		
1	2. The compound of claim 1, wherein		
2	A <sup>1</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of $(C_1-C_8)$ alkylene,		
3	arylene, heteroarylene and a single bond;		
3	$L^1$ and $L^2$ are each independently a member selected from the group		
4	L and L are each independently a member servered from the group		

6	R <sup>1</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of (C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>8</sub> )cycloalkyl,		
7	aryl, heteroaryl, aryl( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )alkyl, and (heteroaryl)( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )alkyl; and		
8	B <sup>1</sup> and B <sup>2</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
9	consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, aryl( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )alkyl, (heteroaryl)( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )alkyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_8$ )alkyl,		
10	and (C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>8</sub> )cycloalkyl.		
1	3. The compound of claim 1, wherein		
2	A <sup>1</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of (C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>8</sub> )alkylene,		
3	phenylene, divalent pyridine and a single bond;		
4	L <sup>1</sup> and L <sup>2</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
5	consisting of $-C(O)$ - and $-C(O)N(R^1)$ -;		
6	R <sup>1</sup> is optionally substituted (C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>8</sub> )cycloalkyl, optionally substituted		
7	phenyl, optionally substituted benzyl, and (C1-C8)alkyl; and		
8	$B^1$ and $B^2$ are each independently a member selected from the group		
9	consisting of optionally substituted (C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>8</sub> )cycloalkyl, optionally substituted phenyl, and		
10	optionally substituted benzyl.		
1	4. The compound of claim 1, wherein		
2	A <sup>1</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of alkylene, arylene,		
3	heteroarylene and a single bond;		
4	$L^1$ and $L^2$ are each -C(O)N( $R^1$ )-;		
5	R <sup>1</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl,		
6	arylalkyl, and (heteroaryl)alkyl; and		
7	B1 and B2 are each independently a member selected from the group		
8	consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, alkyl, and cycloalkyl.		
1	5. The compound of claim 1, wherein		
2	A <sup>1</sup> is a heteroarylene group containing two fused rings;		
3	L1 and L2 are each independently a member selected from the group		
4	consisting of -O-, -NH-, and -N(R1)-;		
5	R <sup>1</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl and		
6	heteroalkyl; and		
7	B <sup>1</sup> and B <sup>2</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		

consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, alkyl, and cycloalkyl.

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#### A compound of the formula 6.

$$B^3$$
 $X$ 
 $A^3$ 
 $A^2$ 
 $A$ 

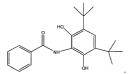
wherein:

A<sup>2</sup> and A<sup>3</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;

B<sup>3</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -alkylene- $C(O)R^3$ ,  $-C(O)R^3$ , alkyklene- $C(O)N(R^3R^4)$ ,  $-C(O)N(R^3R^4)$ , alkylene- $S(O)_nN(R^3R^4)$ , -S(O)<sub>n</sub>N(R<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>), alkylene-N(R<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>), alkylene-OR<sup>3</sup>, and -C(O)OR<sup>3</sup>:

R3 and R4 are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;

X is a member selected from the group consisting of C, S, and N; and the subscripts n and p are each independently an integer from 0-2, provided that the following compound is excluded:



The compound of claim 6, wherein

A<sup>2</sup> and A<sup>3</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of aryl and heteroaryl;

B3 is a member selected from the group consisting of alkylene-C(O)N(R<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>), and alkylene-S(O)<sub>n</sub>N(R<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>);

wherein R3 is arylalkyl or (heteroaryl)alkyl;

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R4 is hydrogen: 7 X is S: and 8 n is 2.

## The compound of claim 6, wherein

A2 is an aryl group substituted ortho to the nitrogen with a member selected from the group consisting of -OH, -NH2,-NHC(O)-alkyl, -NHSO2-alkyl;

> A<sup>3</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of aryl and heteroaryl; B3 is hydrogen;

X is C: and

p is 1.

#### A compound of the formula: 9.



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wherein:

A<sup>4</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -C(O)R<sup>5</sup>, - $C(O)N(R^5R^6)$ ,  $-S(O)_nN(R^5R^6)$ , -alkylene- $N(R^5R^6)$ , -alkylene- $OR^5$  and  $-C(O)OR^5$ ;

L<sup>3</sup> and L<sup>4</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of a single bond, -C(O)-, -S(O)p-, and alkylene, wherein the subscript p is an integer from 0-2:

B<sup>4</sup>, B<sup>5</sup> and B<sup>6</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, fused-benzoheterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arvlalkyl, arvl(heteroalkyl), (heteroaryl)alkyl, and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;

alternatively, B4 and B5 join to form a divalent arylene, heteroarylene, alkylene, or cycloalkylene linkage between L3 and L4, and B6 is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, arylalkyl, or (heteroarvl)alkvl.

X3 and Y are each independently a trivalent nitrogen atom or a trivalent or tetravalent carbon atom; and

20	R5 and R6 are each independently a member selected from the group		
21	consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl,		
22	heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), (heteroaryl)alkyl, and		
23	(heteroaryl)heteroalkyl.		
	10. The compound of claim 9, wherein		
1	A <sup>4</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -		
2	C(O)N(R <sup>5</sup> R <sup>6</sup> ) and -S(O) <sub>2</sub> N(R <sup>5</sup> R <sup>6</sup> );		
3	R <sup>5</sup> and R <sup>6</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
4			
5	consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, and heterocycloalkyl; $L^3$ and $L^4$ are each independently a member selected from the group		
6			
7	consisting of $-C(O)$ -, $-S(O)_2$ -, and lower alkylene; $B^4$ and $B^5$ join to from an arylene or heteroarylene linkage between $L^3$ and		
8			
9	L <sup>4</sup> ;		
10	X is tetravalent carbon in the $R$ configuration;		
11	Y is trivalent nitrogen; and		
12	B <sup>6</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl,		
13	heteroalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, arylalkyl, or (heteroaryl)alkyl.		
1	11. The compound of claim 9, wherein		
2	A <sup>4</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -		
3	$C(O)N(R^5R^6)$ and $-S(O)_2N(R^5R^6)$ ;		
4	R <sup>5</sup> and R <sup>6</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
5	consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, and heterocycloalkyl;		
6	L <sup>3</sup> and L <sup>4</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
7	consisting of $-C(O)$ , $-S(O)^2$ , and lower alkylene;		
8	B <sup>4</sup> and B <sup>5</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
9	consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl;		
10	X is tetravalent carbon in the R configuration;		
11	Y is trivalent nitrogen; and		
12	B <sup>6</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl,		
13	heteroalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, arylalkyl, and (heteroaryl)alkyl.		
1	12. The compound of claim 9, said compound having the formula		

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X4, X5 and X6 are each independently C or S;

 $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  are each independently alkyl, cycloalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl;  $R^9 \ {\rm is\ an\ optionally\ substituted\ aryl,\ heteroaryl,\ arylalkyl,\ (heteroaryl)alkyl,}$ 

heterocycloalkyl;

R<sup>14</sup> is selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylamino,

alkylthio, acyl, cycloalkyl and aryl; and

the subscripts p, q, and r are each independently integers from 0-2.

## 13. A compound of the formula:

wherein:

 $A^4 \text{ is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -C(O)R}^5, \\ -C(O)N(R^5R^6), -S(O)_nN(R^5R^6), -alkylene-N(R^5R^6), -alkylene-OR^5 \text{ and } -C(O)OR}^5;$ 

B<sup>5</sup> and B<sup>6</sup> are members independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, fusedbenzoheterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), (heteroaryl)alkyl and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl; and

X<sup>3</sup> is a trivalent nitrogen atom or a trivalent or tetravalent carbon atom.

## 14. A compound of the formula:



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5 and heterocycloalkyl;

6 L6: 7

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wherein:

A<sup>5</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -alkylene-, - $S(O)_{n^{-}}$ ,  $-C(O)N(R^{12})$ -,  $-S(O)_{2}N(R^{12})$ -, -alkylene- $N(R^{12})$ -, -alkylene-O-, and -C(O)O-; L<sup>5</sup> and L<sup>6</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group

consisting of -C(O)-, -S(O)<sub>n</sub>-; and alkylene, wherein the subscript n is an integer from 0-2;

B<sup>7</sup> B<sup>8</sup> and B<sup>9</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, benzoheterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), (heteroaryl)alkyl, and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;

alternatively, B7 and B8 join to form a divalent arylene, heteroarylene, alkylene, or cycloalkylene linkage between L5 and L6;

Z is a member selected from the group consisting of alkylene, heteroalkylene, cycloalkylene, and heterocycloalkylene;

X<sup>7</sup> and Y<sup>1</sup> are each independently a trivalent nitrogen atom or a trivalent or tetravalent carbon atom; and

R<sup>12</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), (heteroaryl)alkyl, and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl.

### The compound of claim 14, wherein 15.

A<sup>5</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -C(O)N(R12)- and -S(O)2N(R12)-;

R<sup>12</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl,

B<sup>7</sup> and B<sup>8</sup> are joined in an arylene or heteroarylene linkage between L<sup>5</sup> and

B9 is a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, heteroalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, arylalkyl, and (heteroaryl)alkyl;

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4 5 Z is alkylene, heteroalkylene, or heterocycloalkylene;

L<sup>5</sup> and L<sup>6</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, or lower alkylene;

X<sup>7</sup> is tetravalent carbon; and

### 16. A compound of the formula:

Y1 is trivalent nitrogen.



wherein:

 $A^6$  and  $A^7$  are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of arylene, heteroarylene, cycloalkylene, and heterocycloalkylene;

 $B^{10}$  is a member selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, alkyl, eycloalkyl, eycloalkenyl, heteroalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, and heterocycloalkenyl;

 $L^7, L^8$ , and  $L^9$  are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -N( $R^{13}$ ), -C(O)-, -S(O)-, -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, alkylene, -O-alkylene, -S-alkylene, -N( $R^{13}$ )-alkylene, -C(O)-alkylene, -C(O)N( $R^{13}$ )-alkylene, -C(O)-O-alkylene, a single bond, and a double bond;

X<sup>8</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of N, and CR<sup>13</sup>; and R<sup>13</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and (heteroaryl)alkyl.

## 17. The compound of claim 16, wherein

 $A^6$  and  $A^7$  are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, and heterocycloalkyl;

 $B^{10}$  is a member selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and (heteroaryl)alkyl;

L<sup>7</sup> and L<sup>8</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group
 consisting of -C(O)-, -S(O)-, and -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

8		${\color{black} {\rm L}^9}$ is a member selected from the group consisting of -C(O)-, alkylene, and	
9	a single bond;	and	
10		X <sup>5</sup> is N.	
1		18. A pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition	
2	comprising:		
3		a) a compound of claim 1; and	
4		b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.	
1		19. A pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition	
2	comprising:		
3		a) a compound of the formula	
		(Q) <sub>p</sub>	
		B <sup>3</sup> , X,	
		B <sup>3</sup> X A <sup>3</sup>	
4		$^{ m l}_{ m A^2}$	
5		П	
6		wherein:	
7		A <sup>2</sup> and A <sup>3</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group	
8	consisting of a	lkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl,	
9	heterocycloalk	enyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and	
10	(heteroaryl)he	reroalkyl;	
11		B <sup>3</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -alkylene-	
12	$C(O)R^3, -C(O)R^3, alkyklene-C(O)N(R^3R^4), -C(O)N(R^3R^4), alkylene-S(O)_nN(R^3R^4), -C(O)R^3R^4)$		
13	S(O) <sub>n</sub> N(R <sup>3</sup> R <sup>4</sup> ), alkylene-N(R <sup>3</sup> R <sup>4</sup> ), alkylene-OR <sup>3</sup> , and -C(O)OR <sup>3</sup> ;		
14		R3 and R4 are each independently a member selected from the group	
15	consisting of h	nydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl,	
16	heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and		
17	(heteroaryl)he	teroalkyl;	
18		X is a member selected from the group consisting of C, S, and N; and	
19		the subscripts n and p are each independently an integer from 0-2; and	
20		b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.	

1		20.	A pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition
2	comprising:		
3		a) a co	ompound of claim 9; and
4		b) a pl	narmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
1		21.	A pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition
2	comprising:	21.	A pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition
3	comprising.	a) a co	ompound of claim 13; and
4			narmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
7		0) u pi	immucontrany deceptions since a ser-present
1		22.	A pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition
2	comprising:		
3			ompound of claim 14; and
4		b) a pl	narmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
1		23.	A pharmaceutical composition, said pharmaceutical composition
2	comprising:	23.	A pharmaceurear composition, sate pharmaceurear composition
3	comprising.	a) a cc	ompound of claim 16; and
4		-	harmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
		-/ - F-	
1		24.	A method for treating a FXR-mediated disease in a mammal, said
2	method comp	_	
3		admin	istering a compound of claim 1, thereby treating a FXR-mediated
4	disease in a n	nammal.	•
1		25.	A method for treating a FXR-mediated disease in a mammal, said
2	method comp		
_			
3		admin	istering a compound of the formula
			(O) <sub>p</sub>    Y
			B <sup>2</sup> N A <sup>3</sup>
4			A <sup>2</sup>
5			. II
6		where	an:

7	A <sup>2</sup> and A <sup>3</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
8	consisting of alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl,		
9	heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and		
10	(heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;		
11	B <sup>3</sup> is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -alkylen		
12	$C(O)R^3, -C(O)R^3, alkyklene - C(O)N(R^3R^4), -C(O)N(R^3R^4), alkylene - S(O)_nN(R^3R^4), -C(O)N(R^3R^4), -C(O)N(R^4), -C(O)N(R^4)$		
13	S(O) <sub>n</sub> N(R <sup>3</sup> R <sup>4</sup> ), alkylene-N(R <sup>3</sup> R <sup>4</sup> ), alkylene-OR <sup>3</sup> , and -C(O)OR <sup>3</sup> ;		
14	R <sup>3</sup> and R <sup>4</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group		
15	consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl,		
16	heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and		
17	(heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;		
18	X is a member selected from the group consisting of C, S, and N; and		
19	the subscripts n and p are each independently an integer from 0-2;		
20	thereby treating a FXR-mediated disease in a mammal.		
	26. A method for treating a FXR-mediated disease in a mammal, said		
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2	method comprising: administering a compound of claim 9, thereby treating a FXR-mediated		
4	disease in a mammal.		
4	disease in a mainmai.		
1	27. A method for treating a FXR-mediated disease in a mammal, said		
2	method comprising:		
3	administering a compound of claim 13, thereby treating a FXR-mediated		
4	disease in a mammal.		
,	28. A method for treating a FXR-mediated disease in a mammal, said		
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2	method comprising: administering a compound of claim 14, thereby treating a FXR-mediated		
3	disease in a mammal.		
4	disease in a mammai.		
1	29. A method for treating a FXR-mediated disease in a mammal, said		
2	method comprising:		
3	administering a compound of claim 16, thereby treating a FXR-mediated		
4	disease in a mammal.		

 30. A method for modulating cyp7a expression levels in a mammal, said method comprising:
administering a compound of claim 1, thereby modulating cyp7a

expression levels in a mammal.

31. A method for modulating *cyp*7a expression levels in a mammal,

administering a compound of the formula

$$B^3$$
 $X$ 
 $A^3$ 

wherein:

said method comprising:

A<sup>2</sup> and A<sup>3</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;

 $B^3 \ is \ a \ member \ selected \ from \ the \ group \ consisting \ of \ hydrogen, \ -alkylene-C(O)R^3, \ -C(O)R^3, \ -C(O)R^3, \ alkylene-C(O)N(R^3R^4), \ -C(O)N(R^3R^4), \ alkylene-S(O)_nN(R^3R^4), \ -S(O)_nN(R^3R^4), \ alkylene-N(R^3R^4), \ alkylene-OR^3, \ and \ -C(O)OR^3;$ 

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, (heteroaryl)alkyl, aryl(heteroalkyl), and (heteroaryl)heteroalkyl;

X is a member selected from the group consisting of C, S, and N; and the subscripts n and p are each independently an integer from 0-2; thereby modulating cyp7a expression levels in a mammal.

32. A method for modulating cyp7a expression levels in a mammal, said method comprising: administering a compound of claim 9, thereby modulating cyp7a expression levels in a mammal.

I		33.	A method for modulating cyp/a expression levels in a maintain	
2	said method c	said method comprising:		
3		admir	nistering a compound of claim 13, thereby modulating cyp7a	
4	expression levels in a mammal.			
1		34.	A method for modulating cyp7a expression levels in a mammal	
2	said method comprising:			
3		admir	nistering a compound of claim 14, thereby modulating cyp7a	
4	expression lev	expression levels in a mammal.		
1		35.	A method for modulating cyp7a expression levels in a mammal	
2	said method c	ompris	ing:	
3		admir	nistering a compound of claim 16, thereby modulating cyp7a	
4	expression lev	els in a	a mammal.	